I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Confinestoner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Vishnu K. Agarwal

Attorney Docket No.: 501082.02 (98-0616.01)

Serial No. : 09/652,994

Group Art Unit

: 2815

Filed

: August 31, 2000

Examiner

: Not Yet Assigned

Title

: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING AGAINST OXIDATION OF A

CONDUCTIVE LAYER IN SAID DEVICE

GENERAL AUTHORIZATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)

Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

With respect to the above-identified application, the Commissioner is authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) for its timely submission as incorporating a petition therefor for the appropriate length of time. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1266.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY

Paul F. Rusyn

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